

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Health Sector Security and Resilience Plan (HSSRP) provides an overview and assessment of the security and resilience of the health sector and its Critical National Infrastructure (CNI).

It outlines the risks and vulnerabilities to the sector in delivering its day to day business and sets out the risk management strategies undertaken to address these.

The health and social care sector is diverse and needs to be resilient to a wide range of risks and disruptive challenges which may affect its ability to deliver services, whilst also ensuring it is able to deal with any resulting casualties.

The National Risk Assessment (NRA) is a classified document that helps the UK Government monitor and prioritise the most significant domestic emergencies that we could face over the next five years. The health sector can be impacted by the majority of risks in NRA because of its role in managing and treating any casualties that result from the risk occurring. Because of this, it is essential that within the health sector, national planners are not necessarily considering individual risks within the NRA, but instead are planning against the common consequences of these risks as set out in the National Resilience Planning Assumptions (NRPAs).

The HSSRP shows that there are generally good levels of resilience, with good preparedness and business continuity arrangements in place. With respect to social care, the sector could effectively respond to a relatively short lived or localised emergency situation, but it is likely to be much more challenged during a severe, prolonged emergency.

Last year progress was made on improving the resilience to risks of loss of electricity and supply chain resilience, but there is more work that is still required against this and other areas identified in the plan.

As part of the plan for 2017/18, there are a number of active workstreams that will continue to be progressed during the year in order to reduce or mitigate those types of risk identified as being particularly significant. These risks are:

- Social Care
- Loss of electricity
- Cyber security of the health sector and its Critical National Infrastructure (CNI)
- Personnel security of the health sector CNI
- Physical security of the health sector CNI
- Pandemic Influenza
- Supply chain.

The HSSRP presents an action plan for delivering these objectives including planned exercises to support these.